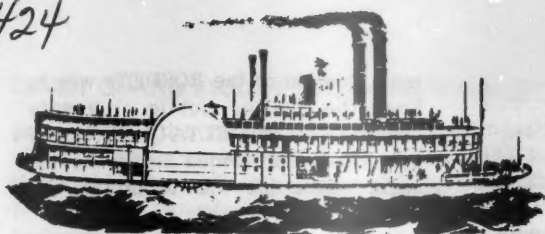


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RIVER CURRENTS

SECOND COAST GUARD DISTRICT, OCTOBER 1979

The Coast Guard Escorts President Down the Mississippi River

The U. S. Coast Guard's Second District played an important part in President Carter's recent trip down the Mississippi River on board the Steamship DELTA QUEEN, nicknamed "Steamboat One" for this cruise. The President, with his wife, Rosalyn, and daughter, Amy, sailed the riverboat from St. Paul, Minnesota to St. Louis, Missouri in a week long trip along the upper section of "Old Man River", August 17-24.

The Coast Guard was responsible for maintaining a 300-foot security and safety zone around the DELTA QUEEN while the President was on board. No vessels except those of the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary were allowed within 300 feet of the DELTA QUEEN without the permission of the

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President Carter speaking to the people who met him in St. Louis as the Cutter OBION and a BOSDET boat, part of the security force, keep watch in the background. Photo by PA3 R.S. Muller

Arkansas Educators Participate In Military Awareness Course

AT1 C.L. Lee from Little Rock Recruiting Detachment has been working with Mr. Charles Diggs, Navy Education Specialist and Dr. Clyde Reese from the University of Arkansas in the Military Career Awareness Course for Educators (MILCACE) program in the Little Rock area.



Arkansas educators learn some of the operations of an HH3F helicopter during a tour of the Coast Guard Air Station, Elizabeth City.

The MILCACE program was originally developed by the Department of Defense as a means of educating the counselors and related guidance personnel to opportunities in the military services. The course normally consists of 40 hours of classroom time at the university or college graduate level and a field trip to bases of the different services. Although the field trip does provide a relatively inexpensive vacation for the participants. The purpose of the trip is to solidify the concepts and ideas initially presented in the classroom.

On June 25, 87 high school educators and military personnel boarded a Navy C9 aircraft at Little Rock Air Force base bound for Norfolk, Virginia area. During the next five days, tours were conducted at Fort Eustis Army Base, the USS
(Continued on p. 3)

MSD Marietta Assists In Drill

MSD Marietta recently assisted various state and federal agencies in conducting a mock explosion and fire on board a tow on the Ohio River at Parkersburg, West Virginia. The drill consisted of the fire on the barge and a fire started on shore by flaming debris.

BM1 Danny Stone and YN2 Richard Ewing assisted in directing the DIANNE NEALE and her tow of two barges to shore where firefighting equipment was standing by to extinguish the "fire" and evacuate "casualties" sustained in the "explosion". Area fire departments used foam to put out the fire and to simulate a chemical leak from the damaged barge. The foam was contained by boom and cleaned up like any other pollution.

LTJG P.N. Higgs from MSO Huntington and ENS J.M. Farley from
(Continued on p. 3)

COAST GUARD ESCORT (Continued from p. 1)

Coast Guard Patrol Commander, CDR A.E. Tanos, Commanding Officer of the Marine Safety Office in St. Louis Missouri. CDR Tanos, aided by three Deputy Patrol Commanders, worked closely with the Secret Service in supporting its job of maintaining the safety of the President and his party.

The eight Boating Safety Detachment (BOSDET) boats of Boating Safety Team Two, commanded by BOSN 3 D. F. Thurston, and two Reserve BOSDETs (from St. Louis) together with the Cutters WYACONDA (Dubuque, IA) and OBION (St. Louis, MO) provided the platforms for security. Although the

main mission of the BOSDETs was to keep the boating public at a safe distance from the DELTA QUEEN, each boat carried an armed Secret Service agent whose job was to protect the President from attack by boat.

The job of keeping the ten BOSDET boats and 28 Auxiliary vessels underway fell on the shoulders of BOSN3 Thurston. Using several BOSDET vans he had to see it to that break downs were repaired; gasoline was distributed; provisions purchased; and personnel moved to and from their posts.

The Cutter WYACONDA and five BOSDET boats escorted the DELTA QUEEN the entire trip. They were joined by the Cutter OBION in Davenport, Iowa, and by the remaining three detachments of BOSTEAM TWO at Alton, Illinois, for the remainder of the voyage to St. Louis.

Nine Second District Reservists, eight called up for the operation and one already on active duty, played an im-

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President and Mrs. Carter wave from the bridge wing of the Steamship DELTA QUEEN, nicknamed "Steamboat One" for the trip down the Mississippi River to St. Louis, Missouri.

Photo by PA3 R.S. Muller



President Carter riding in the stern of BOSDET Ft. Smith's boat near Burlington, Iowa.

Photo by PAC J.R. Kosch



Members of BOSDET Lexington and Secret Service agents patrol along the Steamship DELTA QUEEN during President Carter's trip on the sternwheeler.

Photo by PAC J.R. Kosch



Cutters WYACONDA and OBION moored with a portion of the Auxiliary vessel fleet used in support of President Carter's trip on the DELTA QUEEN.

Photo by PAC J.R. Kosch



BMC C.D. Habertsroh of BOSDET Paducha presents President Carter with a Boating Safety Team Two patch before taking the President fishing on the Mississippi River. Photo by PAC J.R. Kosch

COAST GUARD ESCORT (Continued from p. 2)

portant role in the trip's success. Three of the reservists worked with the Boating Safety Team Two onboard the 17-foot BOSDET boats; four aided MSO St. Louis with Navy divers who checked the St. Louis waterfront for possible explosives prior to DELTA QUEEN's mooring; one, a gourmet cook for a country club, helped the two regular WYACONDA cooks run an outstanding galley 24 hours a day; and one assisted the Coast Guard regulars who ran the shore side support vans for the BOSTEAM and Cutters.

The BOSDET boats, in addition to conducting security patrols, were in use 24 hours a day ferrying Secret Service agents to and from their posts for rest and meals. The agents slept on board the vessels of the Second District Coast Guard Auxiliary, which provided sleeping quarters for Coast Guard personnel also. During this time, sleep was at a premium, as most personnel worked 18 or more hours a day.

Weather was a persistent problem during the trip. Fog, hail, and rain were present to start the President on his trip down the river. A thunderstorm on Wednesday, August 22, provided a great deal of tension for those involved, as near hurricane-force winds and heavy rain forced the DELTA QUEEN and her support vessels to dash for cover along the shoreline. The only serious damage was suffered by a Coast Guard Auxiliary boat which took on some water. The damage was quickly repaired and all vessels were able to proceed without any further major problems.

Crowds along the river grew as the flotilla traveled downstream, making the job of security more difficult as people lined the riverbank hoping for a glimpse of the President.

Near Burlington, Iowa, President

MSD MARIETTA

(Continued from p. 1)

District Marine Safety Division were on hand as observers. The Coast Guard's main function was initial assisting of the towboat and, with the help of two C.G. Auxiliary boats, to keep all other river traffic clear of the area during the drill. The drill went off pretty much as planned. Except for the fact that everyone knew what was planned, units responded much as they would during an actual incident.

Carter took time off to spend a few hours fishing from a BOSDET small boat in the quiet backwaters of the Mississippi. Even on this side trip away from the crowds, the President's security was ensured by Secret Service agents riding in Coast Guard BOSDET boats. With the fishing trip completed, the President returned to the DELTA QUEEN, which had already begun its trip downstream towards the next stop at Hannibal, Missouri.

President Carter's trip on the DELTA QUEEN ended at the foot of the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Missouri, on Friday morning, August 24. Ringed by the Cutters WYACONDA and OBION, the ten BOSDET boats (the two reserve BOSDETS joined the flotilla at the waterfront) and a boat from the Marine Safety Office in St. Louis, the DELTA QUEEN discharged her V.I.P. passengers. It was not until the President left the riverfront that the crews of the Coast Guard boats had a chance to relax and begin the task of cleaning up their equipment and preparing for the long trips home.

ARKANSAS EDUCATORS

(Continued from p. 1)

NIMITZ (CVN-68), and the Coast Guard's Reserve Training Center, Yorktown and Air Station Elizabeth City.

Through the program a better understanding has been established between the military services and the educators of the State of Arkansas. By educating the counselors, they can advise their students as to career options following graduation. Many referrals for both enlisted and officer programs have been received and letters have been received from surrounding states who are not currently participating in such a program.

MSO Louisville Rescues Three Youths From McAlpine Dam

What started out as a "Huck Finn" adventure quickly turned into a life or death situation for three youths on Labor Day. The two ten-year olds and one twelve year-old had run away from the Home of Innocents in Louisville, Kentucky. The three youths walked down to the waterfront of the Ohio River above the McAlpine Lock and Dam where they boarded a small row boat. They pushed off into the river and were immediately caught in the swift current and were pulled towards the dam. The three youths managed to jump from the boat before it crashed into the dam. The youths were able to find safety on the dam's guide wall.

This situation occurred while the Coast Guard was involved in a river regatta in the immediate area. LT Tom Behringer, the Patrol Commander for the regatta, notified BM2 Doug Hauser and MK2 Tim Allen who were underway in a 17 foot patrol boat. They arrived on scene and rescued the three youths from the wall. The youths were taken to the Jefferson County Police River Station and returned to the Home of the Innocents. No charges were filed against the youths, and luckily, no one was injured.

Welcome Aboard

Welcome aboard to the following people who will be reporting for duty in the Second District: MKC G.A. Bowdler, ANFAC Chattanooga; ET3 H.N. Elderts, OMEGA Station, LaMoure; GM2 J.M. Baier, MSO St. Louis; EM3 E.P. Parent, MSO St. Louis; MK3 J.M. Schmidt, CGC OBION.



Work is begun cleaning up the foam that was used in extinguishing the mock fire on board a barge of the DIANNE NEALE under the watchful eye of a boat from MSD Marietta.

New Liberty Policy

Story by LT. K.H. Good,
CGD2 Military Recruiting Branch

The Coast Guard is now calling on its finest resource, its people, to lend a hand in one of its more critical areas - manpower. The Coast Guard, like all services, is experiencing a bleak period in recruiting. The Coast Guard, nationwide, has attained only 90.2% of its goal thus far for Fiscal Year 1979. Many factors are involved - the all volunteer service, change in veteran's benefits and the current economic climate are perhaps the three most significant. Even worse is the current retention rate in the service. While 25.2% is the normal reenlistment rate for first term enlistment rate, and 76.9% for second and subsequent enlistments, the current figures are 18% and 73% respectively.

What can you, as a deckhand on a river tender, or a yeoman at a group office do to help the Coast Guard overcome this manpower shortage? The Coast Guard is too small an organization to rely solely on a select few to do its recruiting. Each and every Coast Guard member can in effect be a full time recruiter. Share your Coast experiences with your friends and associates. Be active in your local community. Our biggest problem in the midwest is a lack of Coast Guard awareness. You can help the cause by promoting general Coast Guard awareness in your community. Recruiting, as anyone who has ever been assigned as a recruiter can testify, is a full time job. Headquarters recognizes this and has authorized a special pro-pay for those assigned. You too can be rewarded for your efforts. The recently published Second District Instruction

authorizes a 72 hour liberty for those individuals directly responsible for the enlistment of a new recruit. Check with your local command for additional details.

Upcoming state elections on Nov. 6, 1979, in:

- Kentucky • New Jersey
- Louisiana • Pennsylvania
- Mississippi • Virginia

NOW YOU CAN
GIVE THE ORDERS!

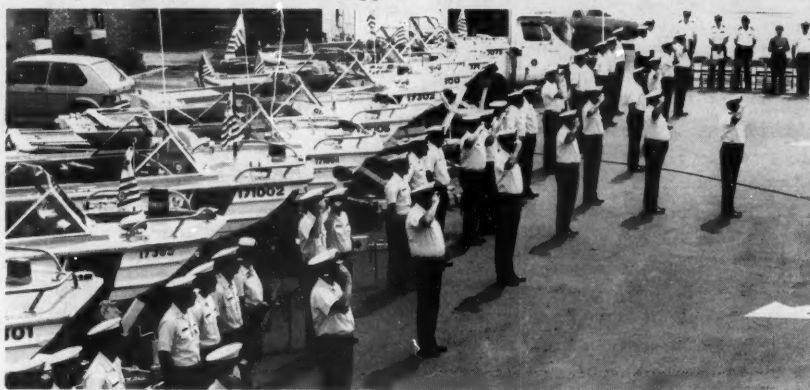
VOTE!



Bosteam Two Receives Commendation

BOSTEAM TWO received the Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation on August 24th at Base St. Louis. The award was presented by RADM N.C. Venzke to CWO3 Donald Thurston and BOSTEAM TWO at the first meeting of the different units that make up BOSTEAM TWO. Statistics show boating fatalities have dropped

markedly in BOSTEAM TWO's region and has been attributed to the efforts of the team in education and safety standards enforcement. The BOSTEAM units were in St. Louis after escorting President Jimmy Carter and the First Family down the Mississippi aboard the Delta Queen.



BOSTEAM TWO stands and salutes as they receive the Meritorious Unit Commendation. Photo by SN David Graf.

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